

Whereas, as the 2002-2003 school year draws to a close, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to applaud the career achievements of those individuals who are retiring from the field of education; and

Whereas, the Hillsboro R-III School District is losing a valuable member of its faculty on May 27, 2003, with the retirement of James R. Rugraff who has devoted twenty-eight years of his life to the education of this state's young citizens through tireless endeavors as a teacher and coach; and

Whereas, James Rugraff has taught for twenty-four years at Hillsboro Junior High School, where he is held in high esteem as an educator who demonstrates considerable competence and remarkable degrees of compassion and understanding; and

Whereas, deeply committed to the great cause of learning, James Rugraff has distinguished himself as an American history and American government teacher and as a wrestling coach and assistant softball coach; and

Whereas, formerly an American history teacher in the Sikeston School District, James Rugraff has supported his profession as a lifetime member of the National Education Association; and

Whereas, so many young Missourians have left the classrooms of Hillsboro Junior High School fully prepared to face the challenges ahead as a result of the outstanding professional endeavors of James Rugraff; and

Whereas, James Rugraff has been blessed with the love of a wonderful wife, Cynthia A. Rugraff, who has proudly supported him throughout his long and illustrious career:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join the Hillsboro R-III School District in expressing appreciation for the unparalleled service that James Rugraff has rendered to Missouri's children and in wishing him the long, fruitful, and enjoyable retirement that he so justly deserves; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for James R. Rugraff, as a measure of our esteem for him.

Offered by _____
Representative Belinda Harris
District No. 110

Offered by _____
Representative Mark C. Abel
District No. 103

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 1689, adopted April 9, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker